

ST. DOMINIC'S *Gazette*



Issue 462 - Friday 28th April 2023

Our **SEAL**
word of the week
commencing
1st May
is
Apology.



Attendance & Punctuality Class of the Week

Congratulations to Class 1B for the best class attendance in EYFS/KS1 this week with 97%. In KS2, congratulations to Class 4B whose attendance was 97%.

Can we please remind parents to inform the school on the first day of any absence and to give an expected return date. GP and dental appointments should be made after school whenever possible.

If your child is not going to be in school please call the office on 020 8985 0995 (option 1) to report their absence. Please do this before 9:00am on each day of absence.



May Day Bank Holiday

A reminder that school will be closed on Bank Holiday **Monday 1st May**.

School will reopen on **Wednesday 3rd May at 9.00am**



School Closures due to Strike Action

Tuesday 2nd May

As you are probably aware, a series of school strikes have been announced by the NEU, due to poor school funding and staff pay. These two factors have led to fewer resources for pupils and staff leaving schools for better paid and less intensive jobs elsewhere. Educators do not want to leave the profession but in its current state we believe it is failing our children and this needs to be highlighted. For this reason, staff have made the difficult decision of taking strike action.

Strike by nature is disruptive, and while the striking members acknowledge that their action creates pressure on families, it is done in order to safeguard educational quality, to ensure standards for staff and children are protected now and in the future. In taking strike action members will be sacrificing their pay. At a time of financial tension, this sacrifice is not taken lightly. Striking staff are hoping that this action will help the negotiation process.

Your support is welcomed and appreciated. If you would like to discuss this further Miss Slingsby is happy to talk to parents. Our risk assessment has concluded that it would be unsafe for St. Dominic's to open on **Tuesday 2nd May 2023**.



Coronation Celebration Picnic Lunch - Friday 5th May

To celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III on Saturday 6th May. St. Dominic's will be holding a special picnic lunch in the playground (weather permitting). We are asking children and staff to join the celebrations by wearing **RED**, **WHITE** and **BLUE** or your favourite party clothes. Children will also be attending special Coronation Celebration Dance Workshops!

Sharon Francis, one of our parent governors, will be collecting donations in the playground to help make the week of celebrations special for all the children. Thank you for your support.



Coronation Day Bank Holiday

Please note that school will be closed on **Monday 8th May** due to the special Coronation Bank Holiday.

School will re-open on **Tuesday 8th May at 9.00am**.



SATs in years 2 and 6

The SATs testing period is starting for our year 2 pupils. There is no set timetable for the tests in year 2 so the pupils may take them at any time during May. Our year 6 pupils will be taking their SATs on the week commencing 8th May. The timetable is as follows:

DATE	TESTS
Tuesday 9 th May	English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1 - Questions Paper 2 - Spelling
Wednesday 10 th May	English Reading
Thursday 11 th May	Maths Paper 1 - Arithmetic Paper 2 - Reasoning
Friday 12 th May	Maths Paper 3 - Reasoning

We would like to remind parents and pupils of the importance of good attendance and punctuality during the testing period. Pupils will feel better prepared for the tests if they have had a good night's sleep and have been fuelled with a healthy and filling breakfast.

If pupils in year 6 are absent for any of the tests they will only be able to take them when they return under special circumstances. If you know that your child will be absent during the year 6 testing period, please let your child's class teacher know immediately.



Year 2 P.E. Day

Please note that P.E. for year 2 will now take place each Wednesday.



New Water Fountain

The new Water Station in the playground was gifted to us by the Greater London Authority (and the Mayor of London) as part of their programme to encourage water only schools. We had to apply and were lucky to be one of the selected schools.

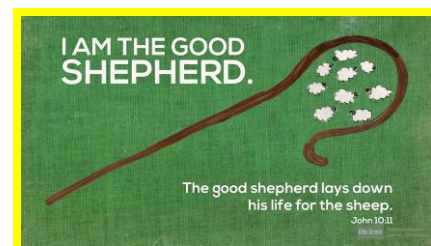
Children are now able to fill up their bottles with fresh water, meaning that they can save money by using reusable drinking bottles instead of plastic bottles, as well as helping the environment by not contributing to plastic waste.



Moved address?
New email address?
Have a new mobile phone?

IMPORTANT: Providing the school with up-to-date details
Can parents please ensure that contact details are kept up to date. It is essential that we have current telephone numbers for at least three adults who we

can contact in case of illness, emergency or absence. If you have changed your contact details recently please advise the school office immediately.



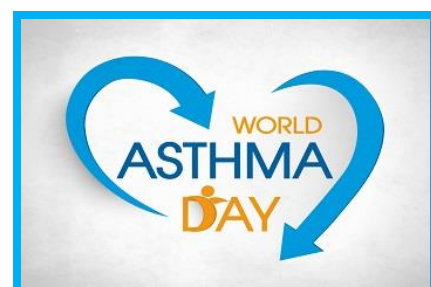
Fourth Sunday of Easter

A shepherd's lonely job was to find food for his sheep and to protect them from wild animals. In summer there was very little grass to eat, and often he had to travel long distances with his flock, searching for pasture. At night he would gather his sheep into the fold, and then lie across the entrance to make a 'gate'. In Sunday's Gospel we hear how Jesus calls himself 'the Good Shepherd'.

Prayer

The Lord is my shepherd, he gives me everything I need. He leads me to lie down in green meadows and to drink beside cool, deep pools. He is my strength and protection and guides me along the right path. Even in times of darkness and trouble I will not be afraid, for he is always beside me and will protect me from harm. I know this goodness and love will stay with me all the days of my life.

Amen.



2nd May 2023